INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Design Memo No. 26-26

November 4, 2026

TO: All Design Personnel and Consultants

FROM: */s/ Elizabeth P. Mouser*
Elizabeth P. Mouser
Standards and Policy Director

SUBJECT: Erosion Control Blankets for Permit Compliance

REVISES: *Indiana Design Manual* Section 17-4.10

EFFECTIVE: Lettings on or after March 1, 2027

Field observations have noted frequent placement of inadequate erosion control blanket products on permitted projects.

The Standards Committee approved revisions to the following recurring special provisions (RSPs) at the October 2026 meeting, Old Business Item 2. Revisions add requirements for biodegradable net free erosion control blankets, which minimize the entrapment and snaring of small-bodied wildlife, such as snakes and turtles, and will allow INDOT to maintain permit compliance.

- RSP 621-R-800, Seeding and Sodding
- RSP 914-M-070, Roadside Development Materials

New Pay Item

The revisions to RSP 621-R-800 include a new pay item. The pay item should be specified in contracts that include a waterway permit (IDEM 401, USACE 404, or IDNR Construction in a Floodway) and require erosion control blanket.

Until sufficient bid history is established, a unit cost approximately 1 ½ times the cost of standard erosion control blanket can be used for estimating purposes.

Pay Item	Description	Unit
621-000277	Biodegradable Net Free Erosion Control Blanket	SYS

IDM Revision

The referenced section of IDM Chapter 17 have been revised to reflect these changes.

Questions

For questions related to this design memo, please contact the Environmental Services Division, Reed Hathaway, at RHathaway@indot.in.gov.